

Sunday, May 22, 2022

Breathe

Company: Vissi Dance Theater
Venue: ST Marks Church In the Bowery
Location: New York, NY

► [Share](#) | [Print](#) | [Download](#)



Loy Stewart

Vissi Dance Theater

Presents

BREATHE

A Dance and Spoken Word Concert

Featuring the premiere of Breathe

April 1, 2022 (New York) – The Vissi Dance Theater is thrilled to announce a collaborative event after a two year-long hiatus. On May 22nd, 5pm at St Marks Church in The Bowery, 131 East Tenth Street, the Vissi Dance Theater will feature a must-see concert that features acclaimed writer, director Judith Sloan, Poet Gold, Lee Lund Dance Assembly and the internationally acclaimed dancers of Vissi.

Legendary club dancer, author, founder and modern dance choreographer, Courtney French, will premiere his most recent collaborative work Breathe, featuring music by Dr. Darrell Smith of the Dal Segno Trio and the New School of Jazz and Contemporary Music.

Breathe speaks of the servant trapped in a caste system that condemns the person to servitude for their entire existence. So low is this servant, that they are required to walk backwards while wiping away their foot prints, so they don't offend. This servant will die as they were born; The Untouchable.

Section two explores the demand for pure physical labor through exploitation, manufactured wars, economic systems i.e., slavery, indentured service, serfdom and capitalism. This servant works at the pleasure of the ruling class and fights perpetually for the right of self-determination; The Picker.

Thousands of Korean women, were used as sex slaves to Japanese soldiers in World War 2. In fact, this atrocity was not limited to Korean women, but throughout history, men have shown a bottomless appetite for sexual exploitation. This servant is displayed ubiquitously throughout the modern world, from street corners to glass-wall bedrooms in the Redlight District; The Comfort Woman.

The evening also features Judith Sloan and Andrew Griffin performing new works on migration, finding refuge, home, and the looming climate emergency.

Sloan and Griffin received Artist Commissioning grants from the New York State Council on the Arts to create a new work. They will present a sneak peak of some of this new work.

Sloan is an award-winning actor, writer, audio producer, educator and activist whose work combines humor, pathos, and a love of the absurd. Griffin is an accomplished composer, violist and creator who was recently seen in "Ain't Too Proud" on Broadway. Together Sloan and Griffin have been collaborating on various projects since 2016.

For more information: <https://earsay.org/>

Bettina "Poet Gold" Wilkerson is pushing the boundaries of poetry and the spoken word. Living with a chronic illness since childhood, Poet Gold, or as she is affectionately known as, "Gold", brings a soul-searching insight about the human existence, love, dreams, challenges, and triumph.

Family owned and operated for the past 38 years, the Lee Lund Studio of New Haven Connecticut, is proud to offer a creative and educational environment for dancers of all ages. A place for them to train & flourish in jazz and modern dance. Their adult and young adult company will open the concert.

About Vissi

The Vissi Dance Theater was founded in 2000. The company has performed on the east and west coast of the United States, Europe, Asia and the Caribbean. Vissi subscribes to the idea that dance comes from the people, that is should be accessible to the people and that people like to see themselves in the stories that a dancer tells with their body.

Media Contact:

Tonika Custalow: vissidancetheater@gmail.com.

Vissi Dance Theater
131 East 10th Street
New York, NY, 10003
9178217156

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/vissi-dance-theater-presents-breathe-dance-spoken-word-music-tickets-317237745637>

Schedule

May 22, 2022: 5:00pm

[< back](#)

[previous listing](#) • [next listing](#)